

**TOWN OF BROOKFIELD  
ZONING REGULATIONS**

**Firing Ranges, Target Shooting & Discharge of Firearms for Recreational Purposes –  
§ 242-313A&B**

**§242-313      Firing Ranges, Target Shooting , and the Discharge of Firearms for  
Recreational Purposes [11/8/00]**

**A.    Residential Zones**

- (1)    Firearm Activities are prohibited in Residential Zones unless an application for a Firearm Plan is submitted to and approved by the Zoning Commission.

**B.    Firearm Plan Requirement**

- (1)    No Firearm Plan shall be approved by the Zoning Commission unless the use of the property for Firearm Activities:
- (a)    predates the effective date of this section; and
  - (b)    constitutes a valid non-conforming use as provided by law.
- (2)    No Firearm Plan shall be approved by the Zoning Commission unless it incorporates the following structures:
- (a)    a sound attenuation enclosure surrounding the firing discharge area, which shall reduce the noise measured at the property lines to the standards outlined in Section 242-602A of these regulations, and any noise regulations provided by local, state or federal statute or regulation, whichever more restrictive;
  - (b)    a target barrier which shall not be less than 12 feet in height and shall be backed by an earthen berm of four feet (4') or more in thickness, which structure shall be set back not less than thirty feet (30') from any property line, and shall be sufficient to act as a complete deterrent to any ammunition used on the property from passing onto an adjoining property;
  - (c)    an elevation limiting device, which shall prevent any round from being fired above the target barrier;

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- (d) the area in which Firearm Activities may take place shall be completely surrounded by means of a fence or wall not less than four feet (4') above the ground at any point, and all openings in the fence or wall shall be secured by a gate or door equipped with a self-closing, self-latching mechanism that is inaccessible from the outside to small children. A natural barrier is not permitted as an enclosure.
- (3) An application for approval of a Firearm Plan must contain at a minimum, the following documents:
  - (a) A Firearm Plan, which shall consist of a Class A-2 survey of the property, in recordable form, prepared by a licensed and certified land surveyor. In addition to the standard requirements for a Class A-2 survey, the Firearm Plan shall contain the following information:
    - [1] the location of all existing and proposed structures on the property;
    - [2] the location of all existing and proposed locations of Firearm Activities;
    - [3] the location of all structures required by this Section, particularly those enumerated in subsection B(2) above;
    - [4] a written narrative detailing all restrictions imposed by this Section particularly those enumerated in subsection B(3)[b] below;
    - [5] elevations of all existing and proposed site structures;
    - [6] the distances of the existing and proposed Firearm Activities from structures on adjoining properties;
    - [7] the location of any wetlands, underground aquifers, underground aquifer wells providing drinking water, including the distances of the existing and proposed Firearm Activities from such areas and the depth of such aquifer resources; and
    - [8] evidence that the range is constructed in such a manner that all shot, debris and discharge is confined to the target area and that there is no danger or risk of injury to persons and property;

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- (b) An agreement from the applicant, to be recorded on the Land Records, that Firearm Activities on the property will be subject to the following limitations:
  - [1] Firearm Activities will be conducted on the property only by the owners and/or occupants thereof and their invited guests;
  - [2] there will be no charge or fee for the conduct of Firearm Activities on the property;
  - [3] the property owner must be present during the conduct of Firearm Activities on the property at all times
  - [4] there shall not be more than four individuals simultaneously conducting Firearm Activities on the property;
  - [5] all individuals conducting Firearm Activities on the property must be duly licensed to carry and discharge firearms in accordance with State and Federal law;
  - [6] no Firearm Activities shall be conducted on Sundays or on legal holidays;
  - [7] no Firearm Activities shall be conducted except between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; and
  - [8] no ammunition may be used in connection with any Firearm Activities except that which can be safely discharged in accordance with State and Federal law and the provisions of this Section and be stopped by the target barrier.
- (c) An enumeration of the specific Firearm Activities to be conducted on the property, to be detailed on the Firearm Plan;
- (d) A plan of operation for the property, detailed on the Firearm Plan, including an enumeration of the safety precautions and procedures to be implemented;
- (e) A letter report from the Chief of the Brookfield Police Department, stating that the Firearm Plan has been reviewed and that the plan incorporates adequate safety measures;

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- (f) A plan for the property, detailed on the Firearm Plan, to ensure that no ammunition remains, pellets, spent shells, spent shot, target debris, or other residual material, especially those containing lead, is allowed to enter any watercourse or wetlands, or allowed to accumulate on the property in violation of any federal, state or local rule, regulation or statute;
- (g) If lead shot is to be utilized, a lead discharge permit for the property, issued by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection;
- (h) Copies of all required governmental Firearm licenses issued to the applicants for the Firearm Activities to be conducted on the site;
- (i) A written statement, under oath, from the applicant that the property had frequently and regularly been used for the specific Firearm Activities to be conducted on the property for at least the one year period prior to the adoption of these regulations.

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